

REPORT

OF

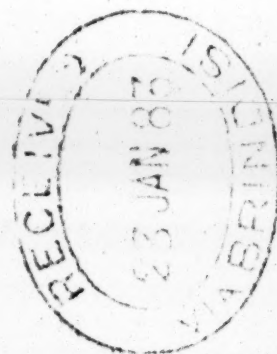
NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 16th December 1882.

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.	
BENGALI.					
Monthly.					
1	"Bhārat Shramajivī"	Calcutta ...	2,100	7th December 1882.	
Fortnightly.					
2	"Bhārat Hitaishī"	Burrisal ...	.....	
3	"Sansodhini"	Chittagong ...	600		
4	"Purva Pratidhwani"	Ditto ...	.....	
5	"Jātiya Suhrid"	Calcutta ...	.....	
6	"Tripurā Vārtāvaha"	Commillah ...	.....	
Weekly.					
7	"Ananda Bazar Patrikā"	Ditto ...	700	11th ditto.	
8	"Arya Darpan"	Ditto ...	.....	15th ditto.
9	"Bangabāsi"	Ditto ...	.....	9th ditto.
10	"Bārtābaha"	Pubna ...	.....	
11	"Bhārat Bandhu"	Calcutta ...	.....	
12	"Bhārat Mihir"	Mymensing ...	671	5th ditto.	
13	"Bengal Advertiser"	Calcutta ...	2,000		
14	"Bardwān Sanjivani"	Burdwan ...	296	8th ditto.	
15	"Chāruvārtā"	Sherepore, Mymensing ...	.....	4th ditto.
16	"Dacca Prakāsh"	Dacca ...	350	10th ditto.	
17	"Dūt"	Calcutta ...	.....	
18	"Education Gazette"	Hooghly ...	745	15th ditto.	
19	"Grāmvārtā Prakāshikā"	Comercolly ...	.....	9th ditto.
20	"Halisahar Prakāshikā"	Calcutta ...	.....	9th ditto.
21	"Hindu Ranjikā"	Beauleah, Rājshāhye ...	200	13th ditto.	
22	"Medinī"	Midnapore ...	.....	11th ditto.
23	"Murshidābād Patrikā"	Berhampore ...	487		
24	"Murshidābād Pratinidhi"	Ditto ...	.....	
25	"Navavibhākar"	Calcutta ...	850	11th ditto.	
26	"Paridarshak"	Sylhet ...	.....	
27	"Pratikār"	Berhampore ...	275		
28	"Rajshahye Samvād"	Beauleah ...	.....	
29	"Rungpore Dik Prakāsh"	Kakiniā, Rungpore ...	250	14th ditto.	
30	"Sādhārani"	Chinsurah ...	500	10th ditto.	
31	"Sahachar"	Calcutta ...	500		
32	"Som Prakāsh"	Changripottā, 24-Perghs. ...	.....	11th ditto.
33	"Sudhākar"	Mymensing ...	.....	
34	"Sulabha Samāchār"	Calcutta ...	4,000	9th ditto.	
35	"Srihatta Prakāsh"	Sylhet ...	440		
Daily.					
36	"Samvād Prabhākar"	Calcutta ...	700	8th to 16th December 1882.	
37	"Samvād Purnachandrodaya"	Ditto ...	300	11th and 12th ditto.	
38	"Samāchār Chandrikā"	Ditto ...	625	9th to 15th ditto.	
39	"Banga Vidya Prakāshikā"	Ditto ...	500	9th to 16th ditto.	
40	"Prabhāti"	Ditto ...	.....	
41	"Samāchār Sudhābarsan"	Ditto ...	.....	
ENGLISH AND URDU.					
Weekly.					
42	"Urdu Guide"	Ditto ...	365	9th December 1882.	



No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
HINDI.				
Weekly.				
43	"Behár Bandhu"	Bankipore, Patna ...	500	11th December 1882. 9th ditto.
44	"Bhárat Mitra"	Calcutta ...	500	
45	"Sár Sudhánidhi"	Ditto ...	200	
46	"Uchit Baktá"	Ditto ...	.....
PERSIAK.				
Weekly.				
47	"Jám-Jahán-numá"	Ditto ...	250	8th ditto.
URDU.				
Weekly.				
48	"Akhbár-i-Darussaltanat"	Ditto ...	.....
Bi-Weekly.				
49	"Amir-ul-Akhbár"	Ditto ...	.....
ASSAMESE.				
Monthly.				
50	"Assam Vilásiní"	Sibsagar ...	.....
URIYA.				
Weekly.				
51	"Utkal Dípiká"	Cuttack ...	200	2nd ditto.
52	"Utkal Darpan"	Balasore ...	160	
53	"Balasore Samvad Váhika"	Ditto ...	125	
54	"Purusottam Patriká"	Pooree ...	.....	4th ditto.
Fortnightly.				
55	"Mayurbhunj Pákshik Pátriká"	Mayurbhunj ...	.....
HINDI.				
Monthly.				
56	"Kshatriya Patriká"	Patna ...	.....

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION.

The *Cháru Vártá*, of the 4th December, contains an article headed

CHARU VARTA.
December 4th, 1882.

Political advancement of the people
of India.

"Those days are gone by." The writer remarks that to the Civilian India has ceased to be the land of wealth and happiness which it was formerly. Those days indeed are gone by. Those that were boys have now grown up to man's estate, the blind have had their eyes opened; the passive and apathetic population have begun to shew signs of activity. Red faces and red coats do not any longer inspire natives with terror. Courage, self-reliance, and independent effort have gradually and slowly made their appearance in India. The Civilians have indeed good reasons to feel mortified at the change that has occurred within the last twenty-five years. They had long continued to monopolize the good things of India, and to regard the natives of the country as a conquered people, who must always remain in a state of subjection. But all this has now changed. Natives are now found filling the highest office in the district police. There are native Joint-Magistrates and even native Magistrates and native District Judges. Even the highest seat in the highest tribunal in the land has been for some time filled by a native. Natives have fearlessly crossed the sea and gone to England, and by their eloquence pleased men like Messrs. Gladstone and Bright. They are not content even with this, and are anxious to enter the British Parliament; add to this Lord Ripon's scheme of local self-government, which has given a powerful stimulus to their ambition. There is in fact now noticeable a mighty upheaval of native feeling throughout the country which is exceedingly gratifying to all true friends of India.

2. The same paper directs the attention of the Education Commission to the desirability of introducing gymnastic exercises among native students. Indeed, a gymnastic training should be made a compulsory part of the curriculum of Indian schools.

CHARU VARTA.

3. The same paper suspects that Lord Hartington must have somewhat coldly received Lord Ripon's scheme of local self-government, and directed him to proceed a little slowly in this matter. The difficulties of the Viceroy's position to which Mr. Hume referred so recently are now being gradually realized. The Editor then proceeds to make the following observations:—We ask—Is Lord Ripon really going too fast; and if he proceeds at the rate at which he is going, will a second convulsion like the Sepoy Mutiny occur in India? Is Lord Ripon making us wholly independent by exempting us from all control? Such rash expectations have not for a moment found a place in our hearts. Is Lord Ripon about to place us beyond the control of district and sub-divisional officers? Shall we, armed with our newly-gotten powers, be able to defy the powers of the Magistrate? If this be not the case, why should Lord Ripon be asked to move slowly? In view of what possible evil should Lord Ripon check his speed?

CHARU VARTA.

Has His Excellency desired to sow the seed of self-government on a barren soil and out of season? In the actual work of administration natives may not be the equals of Englishmen; but have they not become yet entitled to *learn* the work of administration? Nor do we say that we shall at first be fully able to perform the work proposed to be entrusted to us. What we do maintain is that after a short time we shall be fairly in a position to perform it well. We have repeatedly admitted, and Lord Ripon also is aware of this, that we are not in this matter well trained, but are merely novices. Why then this apprehension of evil by anticipation? Why this throwing of cold water on a noble project? And is the self-government which Lord Ripon is

about to grant to us a perfectly new thing? It already exists, though in an undeveloped form, in municipalities, and the hundreds of the Committees and Commissions existing under the auspices of Government. What Lord Ripon has done is to give to it a new and developed form by removing it from the insect which has so long gnawed at its root; and should Lord Ripon be condemned as lacking farsightedness for this?

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
December 4th, 1882.

Local self-government.

A dramatic dialogue.

4. The following is a full translation given according to the promise made in last week's report (paragraph 19), of the dramatic dialogue on local self-government which has appeared in the *Navavibhakar* of the 4th December:—

POLITICAL DRAMATIC REPRESENTATION.

ACT I.

SCENE 1.

Simla, the Council room.

Lord Ripon.—(*Sol.*) As Representative of the Empress of India, I have accepted the charge of governing India. I ought to make the people as happy as they would have been if the Empress of India had herself governed this large Empire. But I cannot determine on reflection by what means I can make them happy. Let the unholy Afghan war be closed in the first instance, in order that the people may breathe freely for some time under the shadow of peace after being rescued from the severe heat of the sun of war. I shall next endeavour to make the people really happy in consultation with my ministers.

Enter the War Minister.

(*Openly*). Minister of War! Order those troops of ours that are in Afghanistan to return. Let them not remain in Afghanistan for one moment. There is no necessity for further war.

War Minister.—Thy commands will be obeyed.

SCENE 2.

A public street in Simla.

(Lord Ripon and Major Baring in a carriage.)

Major Baring.—Your Lordship had told me that it is necessary to better somewhat the condition of the Indian people. I am fully of that opinion. It is in every respect necessary to take steps whereby the people of the country may be enabled to earn something, whereby the indigenous arts may prosper, the agriculture of the country thrive, and the education of the country may be encouraged. We have not come to this country on the call of hunger. If we do not do what would enable the people to obtain a meal in the morning and a meal in the evening, what necessity was there for our coming to this country?

Lord Ripon.—My good brother, you have searched out, as it were, my most cherished views. We want neither honour, nor respect, nor glory, nor fame. We shall feel fully satisfied if the life of the Indian subjects of Her Majesty be somewhat elevated. The means by which their condition can be improved cannot be determined at once. We two shall quietly and slowly consult about this.

Major Baring.—Your Lordship will not be able to stay in this country for more than five years, out of which all this time has been

required to understand the official system and the condition of the country. If we proceed too slowly, our object will not in the end be realized. We are not ourselves wholly independent. It takes a long time in this country to enforce a scheme. It will not therefore do to take up much time in preparing one. Therefore I say, let us proceed to business at once. Have you thought more about self-government in this country which you were proposing the other day to confer on the people of this country?

Lord Ripon.—What use thinking about that? Let us at once make arrangements about self-government on all sides. It is unnecessary to see whether the people are fit or unfit for it. Where is the necessity for ascertaining that when we intend to *teach* them self-government?

Enter an orderly with a letter.

Major Baring.—(After reading the letter).—Mr. Eden writes.—“The Municipal Commissioners of Calcutta only make speeches, oppose everything. They do not obey my orders.” Mr. Eden requests that the elective system be abolished in the Calcutta Municipality.

Lord Ripon.—Wonder of wonders! We are proposing to introduce the elective system in all places, and Mr. Eden is proposing to abolish it. This cannot be. Let us at once prepare and publish a Resolution on self-government.

Enter another orderly with a letter.

Major Baring.—Lord Fergusson of Bombay writes that the Bombay Municipality is not working well under the elective system. He is also requesting like Mr. Eden.

Lord Ripon.—Well then, Baring! This is a very perplexing affair. Without making more delay, let us write out and publish a Resolution.

ACT II.

SCENE 1.

Belvedere Palace.

Mr. Eden.—Mr. Macaulay! What mischief is this? Already the Bengali Baboo has made us restless, and on the top of this, self-government again! Then I see it will be hard to remain seated on the *guddee* at Belvedere.

Mr. Macaulay.—Do not be so uneasy. Lord Ripon cannot put us aside, and introduce the system of self-government. Harassed by the cross-fires of the Civil Service, he will be compelled in his agony to give up all such ideas.

Enter a peon with a batch of papers.

Mr. Macaulay.—The papers have come from your translation office. All the vernacular newspapers are quite jubilant over Lord Ripon's Resolution.

Mr. Eden.—What mischief! The very persons whose mouths I was seeking to seal has foolish Ripon inspired with courage.

(Falls down upon a sofa despondingly.)

SCENE 2.

(A night meeting of Magistrates on the Calcutta Maidan.)

1st Magistrate.—I beg to move that Lord Ripon is foolish, and that he does not understand the condition of the country, inasmuch as he seeks to lay his hands upon the prescriptive rights of the Civil Service.

2nd Magistrate.—I second this proposal with all my heart.

3rd Magistrate.—My request is that everybody do bind himself by this pledge. "I hereby promise that I shall oppose Lord Ripon to the extent compatible with the maintenance of my place in the service." I firmly trust that every Civilian supported with Indian salt will realize the sacredness of this pledge.

4th Magistrate.—It will not be difficult to act in accordance with this pledge. Displaying externally sympathy with Lord Ripon's scheme, it could be easily opposed secretly. It would do to secure a few worthless Baboos, and make them say that the people do not want self-government. Such Baboos like to bathe in the cooling moonlight of the Magistrate-moon.

SCENE 3.

Mr. Eden (Sol.)—I shall soon have to sever my ties with Bengal. Why should I then go away abused for opposing self-government? Let me give a general support to self-government. I must not lean entirely on Ripon's side, for that would make the people laugh at me.

Enter Mr. Macaulay.

(Openly.)—I say, I have made up my mind to give a general support to Lord Ripon. Do you write out a Resolution. The tact with which you write will prevent people from understanding the secret machinations.

Mr. Macaulay.—Your commands will be obeyed. *(Sol.)* My Lord seems preparing the way to get addresses at the time of his departure.

ACT III.

SCENE 1.

Enter Mr. Thompson on a pleasure yacht in front of a town.

Mr. Thompson.—The natives have violently agitated this country on the subject of self-government. Meetings are being held in every zillah and every sub-division. All are exclaiming—"We want self-government; we want the elective system; we want to elect our own chairman." On the other side, the Magistrates are saying that a few educated men are howling, but the people in general want none of those things, and understand nothing; and that they are rather in favour of official chairmen. Under these circumstances I must ascertain what is the truth by local enquiry. Lord Ripon is not the man to give up. I, too, ought not to display rashness without seeing things with my own eyes.

Enter some official and non-official gentlemen of the town.

Judge.—This is a day of great good fortune to us.

Magistrate.—Our best desires are this day fulfilled.

Native gentlemen.—Victory to the Lieutenant-Governor! Victory to Lord Ripon!

Lieutenant-Governor.—May God keep the Empress' subjects in happiness.

Judge.—Be gracious enough to accept my hospitality and my worship to-day.

Lieutenant-Governor.—*(Thanking.)*—Very well, let us go. I do not wish to disappoint you.

(Exeunt all.)

SCENE 2.

(*A public street in the town.*)

Lieutenant-Governor.—The condition of the people of this place is not bad.

Magistrate.—Your Honor's humble servant has made the condition of the people so good by working day and night at the sacrifice of his health.

Lieutenant-Governor.—Your devotion to duty is praiseworthy. Mr. Secretary! Take down his name in the pocket-book. I say, the roads of this place are not so very good after all.

Secretary.—Your Honor's coat is soiled with mud. In the English quarters in other towns we do not meet with so much bespattering of mud.

Magistrate.—Please your Honor, there are not in those places Municipalities based on the elective system. Here rate-payers elect their own Commissioners. Roads in this place are in such an excellent condition because the "Elective System" prevails here.

Judge.—Perhaps the roads have not been put in order because your Honor has come in a little too suddenly.

Lieutenant-Governor.—It seems to me that the Vice-Chairman of this place, being a native, looks as much to the European as he does to the native quarter.

Magistrate.—Please your Honor.

SCENE 3.

(*The Lieutenant-Governor's pleasure yacht.*)

Enter a deputation.

Deputation (after reading the address).—Our sincere prayer is that as you are a lover of your subjects, so may your Honor introduce self-government into this place in an impartial spirit, with an eye upon the welfare of your subjects. It is our singular good fortune that we have got a Governor-General like Lord Ripon and a Lieutenant-Governor like your Honor.

Lieutenant-Governor.—Very well, you can go. I shall not forget your prayer. I am not prepared to declare the policy which I shall follow in regard to self-government.

(Exit Deputation after bowing to His Honor.)

Enter two Baboos hurriedly.

1st Baboo.—Your Honor! What these men have just said is all false.

2nd Baboo.—Please your Honor! As there are two parties in Utterparah, so there are two parties here. Ours is the stronger party.

Lieutenant-Governor.—What are you?

1st Baboo.—Please your Honor, the Magistrate of the district is very kind to me.

2nd Baboo.—Please your Honor, I sit with the Deputy Baboo as an Honorary Magistrate.

Lieutenant-Governor—(*Sol.*)—I see these fellows are enemies to their country and great sycophants. (*Openly*) You will be consulted if necessary. You can go now.

Exeunt the two Baboos with dejected countenance.

Chaprassee.—Give my salaam to the Magistrate.

Enter Magistrate.

Well, Mr. Buck, what is your opinion regarding self-government?

Magistrate.—Please Your Honor, can we disapprove what your Honor approves? Let the system of self-government be introduced into this country this very moment. (*Sol*). Your term does not exceed four or four and a half years. What can you do in these few years? We are here till we secure full pension. Well, we shall see hereafter how you can enforce self-government in this country.

(*Exeunt all.*)

SCENE 4.

MAGISTRATE'S COURT.

MAGISTRATE SITTING.

Enter Binod Babu, a pleader, in a respectful attitude.

Magistrate.—Well, have you got so many signatures to the petition which is going up to Government praying for a non-official Chairman?

Pleader.—Yes, your Honor. I have explained the purport of the petition, and people have eagerly signed it.

Magistrate.—You are a liar, a cheat, a forger.

Pleader.—Your Honor, I have done nothing to deserve censure.

Magistrate.—You have induced people to sign by misrepresenting matters. Hear what the signatories themselves say.

1st Signatory.—Your Honor, I want to make you Chairman.

2nd Signatory.—Your Honor, I want none but you.

Magistrate.—I say, Binod Babu, I let you off because you are a pleader. If you had been anybody else, I should have sent you to jail.

ACT IV.

ALLAHABAD, THE *Pioneer* OFFICE.

(*Present the Lieutenant-Governors of Bengal, Bombay, Madras, North-Western Provinces, and the Punjab.*)

Bengal.—The place of meeting is well chosen. Allahabad is a holy place, and the *Pioneer* also now writes on behalf of the natives of India.

Bombay.—I also believe that the place of meeting is a good one. As for the *Pioneer* it is now indeed putting in a few words for natives, but formerly it always wrote against them.

Madras.—Let this pass, brethren! No more of that subject. Now pray let us know what you are doing in the matter of Lord Ripon's self-government.

Bengal.—I fully approve of Lord Ripon's line of policy, but I cannot say how it will turn out in practice. I cannot find out what tricks are being secretly played by the Magistrates.

Madras, North-Western Provinces and Punjab (all in one voice).—We are exactly of the same views. Personally we have the greatest sympathy with Lord Ripon's proposals.

Bombay.—I regret I am not able to agree with you.

Bengal.—Why? You have (newly) come from England. Why are you so opposed to independence? People would not mutiny if self-government were introduced.

Bombay.—Why my brother, I do not know whether my head is turned, or what has happened. But I always have apprehensions.

Bengal.—Verily, your head is turned. This country is very warm. Commence using Bromide of Potassium in somewhat large doses, or consult Payne, who is my brother Eden's great physician. It is perhaps this abnormal condition of your brain that accounts for your seeking to include date palm-trees among exciseable articles.

Bombay.—Ha-ha-ha. No, not date palm-trees, but the mowah flower. That matter is now over. As for the date palm you speak of, it was one of your own Collectors in Bengal who included it under exciseable articles. I am not really an insane person.

Bengal.—Well, Ripon's medicine appears to be really very efficacious.

Bombay.—Well, brother, I am not going to make any more opposition, but shall, like a good boy, do what the Viceroy may tell me to do.

North-Western Provinces.—Be that as it may, brother, men like Monro should be given some really strong medicine.

Bengal.—There is no need for medicine, fasting will cure the disease.

ACT V.

DOWNING-STREET, INDIA OFFICE.

(*Lord Hartington alone in his private chamber.*)

Hartington.—(*Sol.*) Our Liberal principles have reference only to England. Is the policy which guides us in our own country, within our own party, among ourselves, to guide us in a country of conquered foreigners? Forsooth Ripon has made a little too much of it. You have closed the Afghan war, repealed the import duties, and reduced the salt duties. Well done! To continue the Afghan war would have been an act of sheer foolishness. If the import duties had not been repealed, the Manchester votes would have slipped out of our hands. The salt duties ought to have been reduced for the sake of Cheshire even before this. Whether they can be entirely repealed is also a matter for consideration. Show your Liberal principles in this way, and I shall support you with all my heart. For the present the people of India could not be conciliated without repealing Act IX. Well, even that you might do. But would you on that account discontinue indenting for stores from England required for the public service, and purchase goods from the iron manufactories in India for ten years? Then what would be the condition of Birmingham? Ripon's business-faculty, it would seem, is indeed very acute. What matters it whether or not there is improvement of India's commerce and manufactures? The welfare of Manchester, Liverpool, and Sheffield, of all of them, must be sought. Again what mischief is this? Giving self-government to natives of India! I cannot say who put this idea into his head? As Ripon is a landlord of the unschooled Bhuttácháryya type, so is Baring a Dewan or manager of the counting-house type. As the son of a counting-house man, he may be able to calculate interest. What does he know of politics? It is by the advice of this man that Ripon has grown so enthusiastic. I must proceed a little cautiously. I must look to the interest of Sheffield. I must also respect the Civil Servants of all India, otherwise I shall forfeit my position and prestige among their friends and relatives. I must take steps to secure the Premiership. Gladstone's days are numbered. Granville may be put out of the reckoning. He is not fit to be Premier. In these circumstances I must of course do what will increase my English prestige. Self-government must never be

given to the people of India. Stanhope pressed hard the other day in the House of Commons. All the Tories are opposed to self-government. Why then should I bring myself into bad terms with the whole country for the sake of a conquered Empire? Ripon and Baring must not be offended. The business is to be done strategically.

(*Enter Sir Ashley Eden.*)

(*Eagerly.*)—Come, come, Ashley come, you are one of those persons who know India. You were the ruler of the province which is the most advanced of all provinces. Will you tell me whether Lord Ripon's self-government can be granted to India?

Sir A. Eden—(*aside*)—If I had known that it is so, I would have exercised sovereignty in Bengal a few days more. I see he has turned his face against the scheme. Shall I too set my face against it again? No need doing that. It is not good to say two different things so soon in the same breath. Ripon specially is a very virtuous man, and will not entirely deprive the people of India of the hopes which he has once held out to them. That our Chief will make a virtuous man like him, dance like Lord Lytton at his will, is also not possible. The people of India are sure to have some measure of self-government. Why should I then incur ridicule by displaying opposition now? (*Openly.*) Yes, it can be granted in some measure.

Lord Hartington.—What do you mean by "in some measure"?

Sir A. Eden.—In some places nominally, and in some places really. In some places the powers of the Magistrates shall remain unimpaired; in some places they will be slightly diminished in appearance, but will practically remain all the same.

Lord Hartington.—Do you then want to give non-official Chairmen to Ripon's contemplated Boards?

Sir A. Eden.—In some places. Otherwise Ripon would not by any means consent to entirely upset his scheme.

Lord Hartington.—Yes, that is also true. Let us call for all the correspondence that is passing between the Local Governments and the Government of India.

Sir A. Eden.—Please your Lordship, I am also of that opinion.

Lord Hartington.—Yes, whatever else may or may not come out of that, we shall get a good opportunity of causing delay. Who shall say what may happen after that?

Sir A. Eden—(*aside.*)—Let the enemy's work be done by others. I need not talk in this matter. (*Openly.*) Yes, that is all true.

Lord Hartington—(*aside.*)—Eden is a clever fellow, he must be kept well in hand. (*Openly.*) Well then, let us now go to the Council room.

SCENE 2.

Simla, Government House.

(Lord Ripon, Major Baring, and Mr. Hume.)

Lord Ripon.—What shall I do now? Opposition on all sides. I see the whole scheme will break down if I do not now proceed a little cautiously. The Magistrates must be coaxed and pacified with a few sweet words.

Major Baring.—No my Lord, that must not be done. What is your Lordship saying? The whole thing will go to ruin if the Magistrates once see through your weakness.

Mr. Hume.—Don't be so anxious. By writing letters in the *Pioneer*, I have ascertained that the entire population of the country are at your Lordship's

back. Shall not the support of two hundred millions of men be able to stop the opposition of ten or twenty officials ?

Lord Ripon.— O God ! Make my mind firm and immoveable ; may not my heart shrink in fear in executing this great resolve !

5. The *Bhārat Mihir*, of the 5th December, contains a long article in which the writer dwells upon the desirability of promoting good feeling between the Hindus and Mussulmans of India. No real national improvement is possible until the Hindu and the Mussulman have learnt to regard each other as brethren. It behoves officials also to use means to bring about this happy result.

BHARAT MIHIR,
December 5th, 1882.

6. The same paper cordially supports Lord Ripon's proposals to reduce the number and pay of the Civil Servants, and notices with gratification that Mr. Hume also has expressed his agreement therein. Indeed it is high time the reform of the Civil Service were taken in hand. There does not exist any ground at the present time, when facilities of communication between England and India have increased, and the financial condition of India is not prosperous, for maintaining this service which is the most expensive of all services. The natives of India have now become fit to hold the offices hitherto filled by civilians, and they can not justly be excluded from them any longer. The writer next proceeds to observe that there should be no distinction made between native and European civilians as regards pay, and that the old limit of age as regards candidates for the Indian Civil Service should be restored. The attention of Lord Ripon is directed to this matter.

BHARAT MIHIR.

7. The same paper makes the following observations on the subject of agricultural banks:—There are two important points in the speeches made by Sir Stuart Bayley and Major Baring on this subject, namely (1) that the management of the Banks should be entrusted to native gentlemen, and not undertaken by Government; and (2) that loans should be granted for all purposes. It is perfectly clear that under Government management the Banks will not work smoothly. The success or failure of a Governmental institution depends mainly upon the conduct of its officers; and it is well-known that the number of disinterested and philanthropic Government officers is but small. But while there are these objections on the one hand, there is on the other this to be said, that it is doubtful whether native management will be completely advantageous to the people of the country. The mahajuns are not likely to lend out money at low rates of interest. If, however, such Banks could be established under native management as would work under rules framed in the interests of the agriculturists, perhaps the desired object might be attained. It may therefore be suggested that Government should utilize all registered loan offices for the purpose of granting agricultural loans. These loan offices might be induced to enter into an agreement with Government to this effect that, while they should grant loans to cultivators at low rates of interest, Government would assist them in recovering the loans. It might be provided that these loan transactions would not necessitate the payment of a stamp duty, and that the recovery of the loans would not make litigation necessary. Where there are no loan offices educated gentlemen of the locality may be entrusted with the task of granting loans. It would again be necessary for Government in some places to guarantee the Banks against loss by making some contribution to its funds. Government should not in such cases charge interest at a higher rate than 5 per cent., while the Bank charges agriculturists at no higher rate than 9 per cent.

BHARAT MIHIR.

8. A correspondent of the same paper, writing from Furreedpore, refers to the inconvenience which pleaders, muktears, and suitors are put to owing to the

BHARAT MIHIR.

Mr. Sharp, Magistrate of Furreedpore.

action of Mr. Sharpe, the District Magistrate, in holding court every day from 5 P. M. to 7 to 8 P. M.

SANSODHINI,
December 7th, 1882.

9. The *Sansodhini* of the 7th December, deprecates the proposal made by the local authorities of Chittagong to divert the Meer Ahaya fund from which a portion of the schooling fees of poor Mahomedan students studying in the local vernacular school was hitherto paid for the purpose of promoting the study of Arabic and Persian. The proposal, if carried out, will seriously injure the educational prospects of the Mahomedan lads of the district.

SULABHA SAMACHAR,
December 9th, 1882.

10. The *Sulabha Samachar*, of the 9th December, contains an article headed "An excellent resolve." The editor is exceedingly gratified to read the letter of the Government of India to the Bengal Government on the subject of giving increased publicity to Acts and Bills; and asks that the Bengalee translations of the papers to be circulated should be made in simple and intelligible language, and that a summary of the leading facts and arguments contained in a paper should be appended thereto, together with a few interrogatories on which Government desires to know the opinions of native editors.

BANGABASI,
December 9th, 1882.

11. The *Bangabasi*, of the 9th December, divides the whole period of British rule in India, from the date of the battle of Plassey to the present time, into three periods, viz. (1) the period from the time of Clive to that of Dalhousie; (2) the period from the time of Lord Elgin to that of Lord Lytton; and (3) the period which has commenced with the advent of Lord Ripon. Lord Canning forms the connecting link between the first and second periods and combines the characteristics of both. The first was the period of bloodshed and annexation, the second of legislation, and the third promises to be one of peace and internal improvements. The article concludes with a prayer to God to grant firmness of purpose to Lord Ripon.

SADHARANI,
December 10th, 1882.

12. The *Sadharani*, of the 10th December, regrets to notice that Mr. Rivers Thompson has sought to persuade the public that the increase of revenue from the sale of country liquor has not been greater than the increase of revenue from the sale of other intoxicating drugs. But on his own showing, the revenue raised from the sale of this article has been larger than that raised from the sale of opium and gunja; and it is further to be noted that the price of opium was augmented during the period under notice, while the price of liquor remained the same as before. Thus it is clearly established that there has been increased consumption of liquor than formerly. The Lieutenant-Governor has made the remark that increased consumption of liquor is an evidence of the prosperous condition of the people. Is this the outcome of his experience of this country? Is he not aware that a person who has contracted a habit of drinking will drink at all costs, even by selling the domestic utensils? His Honor's intimation that the number of outstills in certain districts is not adequate to the requirements of those districts and should therefore be augmented, has produced a feeling of profound disappointment. A perusal of the Lieutenant-Governor's recent Resolution on the administration of the Excise Department has confirmed the public in the belief that Government will never surrender a revenue, however injurious its continuance may prove to the people; and that the utmost it will do, if there is any persistent agitation against any of its measures, will be to show by arguments, the force of which the native mind cannot perceive, that the measure complained of has proved beneficial and not injurious.

13. The *Medini*, of the 11th December, suggests, in connection with the proposal to establish Agricultural Banks, that these should be Governmental institutions, and that the proposed loan transactions should be carried on through the agency of brokers of position and respectability, who should be held reponsible for the due recovery of the loans. These brokers should be paid a commission on the amount of the loans.

MEDINI,
December 11th, 1882.

14. The *Som Prakásh*, of the 11th December, remarks that European offenders in this country are very rarely convicted by European Judges. A miscarriage of justice is the result of this state of things. Lord Ripon would confer a great boon upon the people of this country if he could provide for the trial of European offenders by native Judges.

SOM PRAKASH,
December 11th, 1882.

15. The *Navavibhákar*, of the 11th December, contains two long articles on the Saharunpore case. The editor dwells upon the alarm which has been produced in the minds of the people of India by the decision of Mr. Justice Tyrrell, of the Allahabad High Court, in this case. In spite of the clearest evidence of the guilt of the three European accused, the Judge acquitted them in accordance with the verdict of a European Jury. The effect of this trial will be to encourage lower classes of Europeans in India who give themselves the airs of the conquerors of this country in these acts of oppression upon weak and inoffensive natives.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
December 11th, 1882.

16. The same paper has read with regret the recent remarks of the Lieutenant-Governor on the license-tax. The tax continues to be as unpopular as ever. That the people have grown accustomed to it only shews that like the hundreds of other evils against which they do not find any remedy, the license-tax is regarded as an inevitable evil. It has been repeatedly observed that a direct tax is not suited to the circumstances of this country. But in disregard of this fact Government has imposed a license-tax which is both a direct tax and a tax levied only from a section of the people. The customs duties—the most unobjectionable tax—have been repealed in deference to free trade principles, apparently because such a course could be safely pursued in India.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

17. The *Ananda Bazar Patriká*, of the 11th December, contains an article highly eulogistic of Lord Ripon, and expressive of the attachment to him of the people of India. The editor enumerates the beneficent public measures which have been up to this time adopted by Lord Ripon's Government.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
December 11th, 1882.

18. In the *Purusottom Patriká*, of the 4th December, the British Government is warmly eulogized as being incomparably superior to all the governments that have preceded it since the days of Ram. Its evenhanded justice is particularly commended. It is, however, a matter of regret that those who have the administration of justice entrusted to them often do their work in a way which proves burdensome to the people. One civil officer is blamed for the strictness with which he enforces the Arms Act, so that if a man licensed to use a gun were attacked by a wild beast, his son, not having the license in his own name, could not shoot the beast to save his father.

PURUSOTTOM
PATRIKA,
December 4th, 1882.

Lord Ripon is highly praised for his constant endeavours to promote the best interests of the people; and his desire to make himself acquainted even with the smaller details of the administrative machinery, witness his visit to a village near Lahore in company with the Lieutenant-Governor, and his inspection of the Patwaree books, &c.

Lord Ripon eulogized.

UTKAL DIPIKA,
December 2nd, 1882.

19. The *Utkal Dipika*, of the 2nd December, refers to the extreme offensiveness of the large tank near the Judge's Court, Cuttack, and states that at

Municipal shortcomings.

this time last year it was so bad that the Court had to be removed to the Commissioner's cutchery. The offensive exhalations from the tank are most trying to passers-by as well as to those who reside in its vicinity, and tend to produce disease. The District Magistrate and the municipal authorities, who never desist from adopting severe measures towards others, do not evidently attend to their own affairs.

UTKAL DIPIKA.

20. The same paper remarks in reference to the appointment of a manager to the Maherbhunj Raj, that as this is the first case of the kind that has occurred

The Moherbhunj Managership.

in Orissa, a great desire to see its issue has therefore been created. It only remains to be seen whether the Chot Roy Baboo or the Commissioner wins.

UTKAL DIPIKA.

21. The editor of the same paper acknowledges with thanks the receipt of a copy, in Urya, of the Government letter on the subject of giving increased publicity to legislative measures, and proceeds

Resolution of Government relative to giving publicity to its proceedings.

to make the following observations:—It is gratifying to notice that Government has taken action so promptly, in regard to its own proposal in this matter. In truth, from the first the present Government has unceasingly desired to do good. This resolution is a happy proof of this fact. It therefore behoves the public to shake off their lethargy, and so to strive that the good intentions of the Government may be successful.

UTKAL DIPIKA.

22. The same paper reviews the annual Administration Report of Orissa, and in reference to the section on "the state of public feeling" remarks—"It is said that the

The Annual Report of Orissa.

reduction of the salt duty has given unmixed satisfaction to all classes of the people. We feel obliged to say that local hakims are not able to understand the feelings of the people. It has never come to our knowledge that any one has felt the least concern in the reduction of the duty on salt. In truth in regard to Orissa the reduction has been so trifling that the poor have not been able to perceive it. Government has by this measure without any reason relinquished a considerable revenue without conferring any benefit upon the people. The highhanded proceedings of the Cuttack Municipality, the inequitable enhancement, the rents in the Khoordah khas mehal, the forest preservation rules, the distress occasioned by the water-tax, and anxiety felt regarding the result of mutation cases, these are measures which continue to engross the attention of the people. Wherever in the mofussil the people are spoken to, these are the subjects of complaint, and yet they are not mentioned in the report."

The writer, referring to the section on "mines and manufactures;" expresses his astonishment that the report contains no reference to the iron mines of Ungool and Dhenkanal, one a khas mehal, and the other having for some years been under the control of Government, and remarks: had the officials put forth efforts to search out the latent resources of the country, measures would have before this been adopted to make the existing iron and coal mines of Ungool profitable concerns.

The writer proceeds to remark that among the officials favourably mentioned in the Report the Collector of Puri is the most conspicuous. He and the Sub-Divisional Officer, Mr. Godfrey, the Settlement Officer, Mr. Taylor, and Conservator of Forests, Mr. Wylly, receive much praise. It is however, noteworthy that the people under their respective jurisdictions are greatly uneasy in their minds, and that these officers are ignorant of the feelings of the people.

Referring to the praise bestowed on zemindars, the writer says:—"How zemindars, who, on account of arrears of rent, institute suits and harass

their ryots, can deserve commendation, we cannot understand. On the whole the Resolution of the Lieutenant-Governor on this report most commends itself to our mind. However rose-coloured the report itself may be, the Lieutenant-Governor has given proof of his being a righteous, discriminate and merciful ruler, by referring to the improper assessment in the Khoordah khas mehal, and the objectionable nature of the measures to collect the arrears of rent. It is to be hoped that during his administration much of our distress will be removed and happiness augmented. Only in one point we do not agree with the Lieutenant-Governor. He has written 'that in Cuttack the increase in the sale of judicial stamps is a further indication of the under-assessment of the district in the matter of license-tax.' We, however, know that mutation cases and the suits arising therefrom and khas mehal cases have contributed to increase the sale of stamps, and that in reality increase in the sale of stamps has no connection with the license-tax. The many suits arising from the action of rice merchants in collecting advances are known to be a sufficient cause for the decrease in the license-tax."

RAJKRISHNA MUKHOPADHYAYA, M.A. & B.L.,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,

The 16th Deceember 1882.

